IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the Application of:) Group Art Unit: 1656
Burg et al.) Examiner: TBA
Serial No: 09/901,181) Atty Docket No.: 97-195P
Filed: July 9, 2001)
For: Improved Nucleic Acid Assays)
)

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts mailed on August 6, 2001. It is believed that no fee is due in connection with this filing. However, if a fee is due the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 13-2490. Please enter the following amendment:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first paragraph of the application to read:

This is a continuation of application U.S. Ser. No. 09/245,939, filed Feb. 5, 1999, which is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 08/850,171, filed May 2, 1997, now abandoned.